

Claim 7 has been amended to cure an informality.

Claim 8 has been cancelled, since the limitations of claim 8 are already found in independent claim 7.

Claim 9 has been amended to cure the indefiniteness set forth by the Examiner and to recite the claim in independent form, setting forth all of the limitations of claims 7 and 8.

Claims 18, 19 and 21 have been amended to include all of the limitations of their base claim and any intervening claims.

It is noted that claims 1-6 and 22-27 have been allowed.

The acknowledgement of the claim for convention priority and the receipt of the certified copies is duly noted.

It is further noted that the drawings filed October 24, 2000 have been accepted.

The objection to claim 7 is duly noted. Claim 7 has been amended to change "said base portion" to read "a base portion".

Since the recited limitations of claim 8 are redundant because these limitations are recited in claim 7, claim 8 has been cancelled, rendering the rejection to claim 8 moot.

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The rejection of claim 9 under the second paragraph of §112 is duly noted. Claim 9 has been amended to cure the informality and further has been amended to include all of the limitations of its base claim and any intervening claims.


Claims 16 and 17 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b). Claims 16 and 17 having been cancelled, without prejudice to Applicants, this rejection is now moot.

The claims which have been objected to have been amended to cure the informalities noted by the Examiner.

In view of the fact that the present application contains only allowed and allowable claims, it is submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance and early issuance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Examiner: Blackman, Rochelle Ann J.



**37 CFR §1.121(b)(1)(iii) and (c)(1)(ii)
CLAIM AMENDMENTS- MARKED UP VERSION**

7. (Twice Amended) A camera comprising:

a photographic lens barrel arranged at one end side of a camera body;

a grip portion arranged at the other end side of the camera body and projecting forward from the camera body;

a projecting portion integrated so as to project upward from the upper surface at the side of the one end portion of the camera body, at which the photographing lens barrel is arranged;

a ranging unit in said camera body;

a window for said ranging unit, arranged to be exposed near [said base portion] a base portion of the photographing lens barrel and on a front surface of the projecting portion; and

a movably mounted electronic flash lid which forms one portion of the projecting portion at an upper part of the window for the ranging unit which is arranged to be exposed on the front of the projecting portion, when an electronic flash unit which is supported by the electronic flash lid is closed when not in use, the electronic flash lid being movable to pop up, when the electronic flash unit which is supported by the electronic flash lid is used, the electronic flash unit which is supported by the electronic flash lid being enabled to emit light by popping-up of the electronic flash lid.

9. (Amended) A camera comprising:

a photographic lens barrel arranged at one end side of a camera body;

a grip portion arranged at the other end side of the camera body and projecting forward from the camera body;

a projecting portion integrated so as to project upward from the upper surface at the side of the one end portion of the camera body, at which the photographing lens barrel is arranged;

a ranging unit in said camera body;

a window for said ranging unit, arranged to be exposed near a base portion of the photographing lens barrel and on a front surface of the projecting portion; and

a movably mounted electronic flash lid which forms one portion of the projecting portion at an upper part of the window for the ranging unit, the electronic flash lid being movable to pop up, when the electronic flash unit which is supported by the electronic flash lid is used, the electronic flash unit which is supported by the electronic flash lid being enabled to emit light by popping-up of the electronic flash lid;

[The camera according to claim 7,]

wherein the electronic flash unit is supported by [an] the electronic flash lid making one portion of the projecting portion when the electronic flash unit is not used; the electronic flash lid covers the window for the ranging unit when the electronic flash unit is not used; and the electronic flash lid pops up when the electronic flash unit is used, so as to permit emission of light from the electronic flash unit and focusing.

18. (Twice Amended) A camera comprising:

a photographing lens barrel arranged at one end side of a camera body;

a grip portion arranged at the other end side of the camera body and projecting forward from the camera body;

a projecting portion projecting upward from an upper surface of the camera body, which is located above the photographing lens barrel;

a ranging unit window arranged to be exposed above a base portion of the photographing lens barrel and on a front of the projecting portion; and

an electronic flash unit arranged to be exposed at the front of the projecting portion and displaced from the ranging unit; wherein the electronic flash unit arranged in the front of the projecting portion is arranged over the ranging unit; [The camera according to claim 16,]

[which is] wherein said camera is an electronic camera having an image sensing device for photoelectrically converting a subject image made by the photographing lens barrel,

which further comprises:

an active type first focusing means disposed in alignment with the ranging unit window;

a contrast type second focusing means for outputting focusing signals by use of subject light projected into the image sensing device; and

a control means for controlling the first focusing means and the second focusing means on the basis of a subject state and a photographing state.

19. (Amended) A camera comprising:
a photographic lens barrel arranged at one end side of a camera body;
a grip portion arranged at the other end side of the camera body and projecting
forward from the camera body;
a projecting portion integrated so as to project upward from the upper surface at
the side of the one end portion of the camera body, at which the photographing lens
barrel is arranged;
a ranging unit in said camera body;
a window for said ranging unit, arranged to be exposed near a base portion of
the photographing lens barrel and on a front surface of the projecting portion; and
a movably mounted electronic flash lid which forms one portion of the projecting
portion at an upper part of the window for the ranging unit which is arranged to be
exposed on the front of the projecting portion, when an electronic flash unit which is
supported by the electronic flash lid is closed when not in use, the electronic flash lid
being movable to pop up, when the electronic flash unit which is supported by the
electronic flash lid is used, the electronic flash unit which is supported by the electronic
flash lid being enabled to emit light by popping-up of the electronic flash lid; [A camera
according to claim 7,]

[which] wherein said camera is an electronic camera having an image sensing device for photoelectrically converting a subject image projected on the image sensing device by the photographing lens barrel; and

which further comprises:

an active type first focusing means disposed behind the ranging unit window;

a contrast type second focusing means for outputting focusing signals responsive to subject light projected into the image sensing device; and

a control means for controlling the first focusing means and the second focusing means on the basis of a subject state and a photographing state.

21. (Amended) A camera comprising:

a photographing lens barrel arranged at one end side of a camera body;

a grip portion arranged at the other end side of the camera body and projecting forward from the camera body;

a projecting portion projecting upward from an upper surface of the camera body, which is located above the photographing lens barrel;

a ranging unit window arranged to be exposed above a base portion of the photographing lens barrel and on a front of the projecting portion; and

an electronic flash unit arranged to be exposed at the front of the projecting portion and displaced from the ranging unit;

wherein said camera is an electronic camera having an image sensing device for photoelectrically converting a subject image made by the photographing lens barrel,

which further comprises:

an active type first focusing means disposed in alignment with the ranging unit window;

a contrast type second focusing means for outputting focusing signals by use of subject light projected into the image sensing device; and

a control means for controlling the first focusing means and the second focusing means on the basis of a subject state and a photographing state,

[An electronic camera according to claim 18.]

wherein the subject state is subject brightness or contrast, and the photographing state is a photographing state that a zooming ratio is adjusted, or photographing at close range state, and the control means selects and controls, on the basis of these, one of the first focusing means and the second focusing means.